

Remarks

Claims 1-16, 18, 19, and 21-23 were pending in the subject application. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate limitations of claim 11, which has been indicated in the Office Action to be allowable. Claims 2 and 6 are accordingly amended to eliminate duplicative limitations. Claims 12, 14, and 18 are amended to correct dependency. Claims 4, 9, 11, 13, 16, 22, and 23 have been canceled. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Upon entry of these amendments, claims 1-3, 5-8, 10, 12, 14, 15, 18, 19, and 21 will be before the Examiner. Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

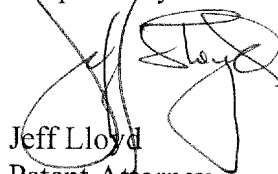
Applicants gratefully note the Examiner's indication that claims 11-13 and 23 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, for which they hereby express their gratitude. Claim 1 is amended above to incorporate the limitations of claim 11. All other pending claims ultimately depend from claim 1 and should also be allowable.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments to the claims, Applicants believe that the claims as currently pending are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 as required by this paper to Deposit Account 19-0065.

Respectfully submitted,



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